

Application No. 09/710,579
Amendment dated October 25, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 23, 2004

Remarks

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Schneider U.S. Patent No. 6,215,855. Original claim 1 reads:

1. A method comprising:

sending upstream a collection of data samples from a DSL line.

Throughout the Schneider patent, embodiments are described in which processing of the signal is carried out at the "receiver end" of the line, rather than with samples being sent from the receiver end of the line "upstream" toward the transmitter end. In these embodiments, when a signal is sent from the central office to a customer premise, it is sampled at the customer premise and processed there; and when a signal is sent "upstream" from the customer premise to the central office, it is sampled at the customer office and processed there. However, the paragraph at col. 16, line 49, to col. 17, line 6, adds that digital samples taken at a customer premise, of the signal received at the customer premise, or Fourier transforms thereof, may be sent to the central office for processing there to take advantage of the greater processing capacity at the central office.

The disclosure of the present application discusses the present invention in the context of developing a line perspective, a collection of information that characterizes the environment of a DSL line. The perspective is developed from a signal sent "downstream" from a network and received at a customer premise. The line perspective includes, for example, crosstalk noise, the source of which is referred to as a disturber. Such crosstalk noise includes interference between different twisted-pair DSL lines, for example. Data collected of the disturber signal and a co-channel corresponding to the disturber signal is sent "upstream", opposite the direction from which the original signal was sent, from the transceiver at the customer premise to network equipment at a central office or network management office. This sent data is more than mere samples of the received signal, but includes information more specifically characteristic of a disturber. (See p. 21 of the specification.)

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to sharpen this distinction. It recites collecting, at a transceiver of a customer premise, data samples, measured from a DSL, that include at least one

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached formal drawings replace informal drawings filed on November 10, 2000. A full set of replacement drawings are attached hereto pursuant to the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review.

Attachment: 8 Replacement Sheets

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disturber signal and a co-channel corresponding that disturber signal, which are sent upstream. This is not taught by Schneider. Claim 5 adds: “correlating the data from the transceiver with data received at the network access management system from at least one other transceiver to develop a network perspective.” This is also not taught by Schneider. Further, claim 6 adds: “sending information from the network perspective of the network access management system downstream to the transceiver of the customer premise.” These and other details not taught by Schneider are included in new independent claim 28. Alternatively, claims 7 and 9 respectively add: “the portion of the data from the transceiver is first sent to an access multiplexer and then forwarded from the access multiplexer to the network access management system” and “receiving the data from the transceiver at the access multiplexer and sending at least a portion of the data from the transceiver to a network access management system”. Additionally, claim 13 adds: “correlating the data at the transceiver from a DSL to develop a line perspective that includes a notification of at least one event and reporting the notification of the event upstream from the transceiver to a network access management system.” Claim 14 is an independent claim drawn to this feature. The event notification is described beginning on page 39 with reference to Fig. 7. This facilitates the development of a network perspective, described on page 22.

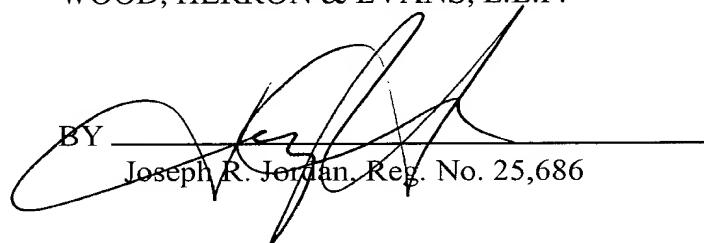
It is submitted that the amended and new claims are patentable. Accordingly, an early allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner find that agreement to further changes is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, a telephone call to counsel listed below is requested.

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Applicants enclose a check in the amount of \$144 for 8 claim in excess of twenty. Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such extension is due or any other fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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